

Remarks

The pending claims are claims 32 and 33.

Claim 32 comprises the subject matter of cancelled claims 27 and 29 without substantive change. The allowability of claim 32 is discussed below.

Claim 33 comprises the subject matter of claim 27 and allowable claim 30 with one change. Instead of specifying that the input impedance is varied "multiple times" (line 5 of claim 30), claim 33 specifies that the impedance is varied at "a rate up to said first frequency", i.e., at a rate up to the frequency of sampling. The reason for this change is to make the claim more definite. The claim coverage is not broadened and no new issues are raised. Accordingly, claim 33, similarly as claim 30, should be allowable.

Neither of claims 32 and 33 specifies a collecting mechanism, hence the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph is avoided.

Reconsideration of the rejection of claim 29, now independent claim 32, is respectfully requested.

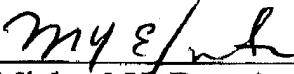
Claim 32 specifies that the variable amount of decrease of the load impedance is directly related to the measured rate of change of the amount of movement. The significance of such change of rate measurements is explained in the specification in the full paragraph on page 7. Therein it is noted that the rate calculation allows the control to choose larger or smaller amounts of impedance increase to effect a "smoother and more efficient control strategy". If, for example, the measured movement (here, the stroke of a piston) is not too fast (line 15) and is slowing down, a small amount of impedance (to movement) increase is applied. This keeps the generator operating in an efficient range, and brings the system to a smooth stop. Conversely (line 18), when the measured movement is at a high speed, which is increasing, a large amount of impedance increase is applied.

However (last sentence of the paragraph), power is still generated while damage to the system is avoided.

Concerning the pending rejection of claim 29, now claim 32, the Examiner (at page 5) refers to the disclosure in Syverson of different values of impedance. However, while such values are selected in response to measured amounts of available output power, nothing is said or suggested concerning measuring rates of change of the power, nor the use of such measured rates of change for obtaining "smoother and more efficient" operation.

Entry of the amendment is requested as raising no new issues. The change in new claim 33 from replaced claim 30 is simply to improve the definiteness of the claim. Claim 29 is resubmitted, in independent form, for reconsideration of subject matter apparently overlooked by the Examiner. Should the Examiner not be prepared to allow the application or even enter the amendment, he is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned (at 843-534-0840) to discuss the matter for hopefully speedily advancing the prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,



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